

Remarks

Claims 3-22 are pending in the Application. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Claim Amendments

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims have been amended as requested by the Office, placing the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 17, 18, 21, and 22 are independent. Claim 18 was already allowed. Claims 2-7 and 17 were objected to but indicated allowable if rewritten in an independent format. Original claim 2 has been placed in an independent format as new claim 21, as requested. Original claim 17 has been placed in an independent format as new claim 22, as requested. Claim 22 includes the allowable features of the spring loaded idle shaft (i.e., original claim 2) and the idle shaft movement being associated with the spring loading to maintain a belt in a state of tension (i.e., original claim 17, step d). Original claim 17 has also been made independent to include not only the allowable features of original claim 17 but also additional features, such as step (a). All other pending claims are dependent.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment as it complies with the requirement of form set forth in the previous Office action (37 C.F.R. § 1.116). Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

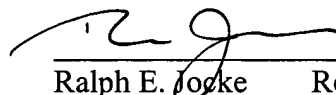
The Rejections

Applicants respectfully continue to traverse the rejections. Nevertheless, the claims have been amended as requested to advance prosecution. Applicants reserve all rights to file another application (e.g., a divisional application) relating to any claim.

Applicants' remarks filed June 9, 2005 are incorporated herein by references. As previously discussed, Swinton does not anticipate claim 1. Swinton also does not anticipate claim 19. Swinton does not teach the recited biasing arrangement of claim 19. Where does the alleged biasing arrangement (sensor arm tongue 800A) in Swinton bias anything? It follows that the alleged biasing arrangement cannot cause the alleged idle shaft to move relative to the alleged drive shaft, especially to maintain a belt in tension.

The undersigned is willing to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Office's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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